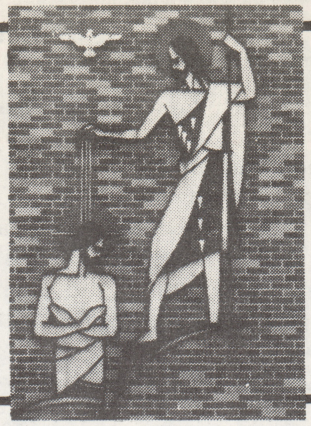
Ypsilanti Catholic

Published Weekly in the Interest of Saint John the Baptist Parish

November 23, 1975



Just A Word ...

by Fr. Harvey

"The Lord's is the earth and its fullness." With such a thought, we give thanks as a nation this week. But more than a thought, Thanksgiving Day is also a challenge, a challenge to our own generosity with our personal goods as an American citizen and a challenge to our consciousness as a citizen of the world which is shared by millions who have little reason to be thankful.

Our personal response to the Campaign for Human Development this week will test part of the challenge which the season of Thanksgiving offers us as Americans.

On the eve of Thanksgiving and on Thanksgiving morning itself, the Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated. As usual, the offerings of money or food made at the Mass will be given to St. Vincent de Paul of our parish for caring for hungry and poor in our own area.

Your concern will also be invited in a special way next weekend through a bulletin insert as we elicit your interest in the Bread for the World program, a Christian citizens' movement on hunger and poverty which enlists the help of ordinary citizens in contacting their members of Congress and other government leaders regarding U.S. policy matters that vitally affect hungry people in the world. This invitation will challenge our consciousness as a citizen in this world. A resolution is presently before Congress which would help the world's hungry people if it is enacted. We need to show our congressmen that we are concerned. More details on this matter will be printed next week.

Next Sunday begins the Season of Advent. Blessing of the Advent wreath will be part of the Liturgy at each Mass next weekend. Many families in our parish build their own Advent wreath at home and use the season of Advent for a time of special family prayers. Suggestions will be printed in next week's Ypsilanti Catholic for those who would like to participate more fully in this season of preparation for the Feast of Christ's birth.

Those desiring Advent wreath kits or candle refills may purchase them in the main vestibule after Mass today and next Sunday. Parish Christmas cards will also be available for those who would like them. If you are a new parishioner this past year or two, you might be interested in sending a picture of St. John's sanctuary decorated for the holiday season. The cards are sold below cost.

I could not let this time of Thanksgiving pass without expressing personal thanks and

PEOPLE TOGETHER... WITH HOPE

Campaign for Human evelopment Collection willbe taken up today. Thank you; and God bless you for your response. In these last years we have touched the lives of 900 groups of poor people through projects of economic development, social development, legal advocacy, communications, etc., made possible by the Campaign — by your contributions. In the name of all whose tomorrow became a new life as well as a new day, THANK YOU. What we've done TOGETHER — some sacrificing to give of their money, others giving time and work, others giving the spirit of refusing to give up — has brought us at least a little closer to the kind of world we long for. The message of our Lord is being lived by a lot of people who absolutely refuse to let the selfish and cruel represent themselves as "mankind." They **aren't. You are.**

Scripture Readings

Readings for Sunday, November 23
Ex. 34:11-12, 15-17
Cor. 15:2-26, 28
Mt. 25:31-46

Readings for Sunday, November 30
Is. 63:16-17, 19; 64:2-7
1 Cor. 1:3-9
Mark 13:33-37

gratitude from your parish team members for the tremendous cooperation and interest so many in this parish continue to manifest. The parish Christmas Bazaar held last weekend is only an indicator of the involvement and support this parish enjoys. Let us all give thanks to the Lord who is our God!

New Life in Christ

Michael Scott Fahy, son of Gary M. and Katherine Ann (Hoss) Fahy, 11570 Beckley, Belleville, was welcomed into our Christian community through Holy Baptism celebrated by Fr. Harvey on November 16, 1975.

Michael's sponsors in the faith are Joseph and Islo Lecessi, Linda Vandiver and Joan Grunzweig. Dale and Annie Wolski were proxy godparents for Joan and Linda.

Welcome Michael. Congratulations Gary and Kathy!

Christmas Bazaar A Success

Cathy Guidebeck and Rita Sprague, co-chairpersons of the Christmas Bazaar would like to thank all of the parishioners who helped in so many ways to make this bazaar a huge success. Managers of every booth are to be congratulated on their decorative touches, their special sellers throughout the day and on Sunday morning, and on the number of items they had at each booth. It was all due to the number of responsive parishioners, men, women, and children, who worked so hard throughout the year to produce such special items per booth, and to the many women who called throughout the parish for baked goods for this parish event. It took many, many hours of hard endeavor and the Service Commission is much appreciative of all that went into making this the best bazaar we have ever had. The free and clear outcome was $3,148.00 which is $1,100.00 over our best year.

A special thanks to Ev. Rachoza and Vi Westlake who donated all the food for the luncheonette; to Gene Butman who donated the turkey for the food basket; to Joe Sesi who provided the lottery tickets for our super drawing; to Moore Memorial Chapel who had the tickets for the super drawing printed months ago.

It is gratifying to see a parish endeavor where all parishioners were so responsive to the needs of each booth. We say thank you to each and every one whom it would be impossible to name, but who know that without your help, this kind of success could not have been realized. In the words of many who came to our bazaar after being at many others in previous weeks and on that day ... this is the best bazaar in town ... and indeed it was, because you made it so.

Parish Nuptials

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Rust

On Friday evening, November 14, 1975, John C. Rust and Ann E. Coleman solemnized their covenant of holy marriage before Fr. Harvey and Pastor William Bingham of the First Baptist Church. Charles and Sandra Sofios of Plymouth were the main witnesses.

John is the son of Mrs. Betty Bedford, 580 Wharton. Ann is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Coleman, 1271 Jay St.

The best man also served as lector, while John and Chris Thomen were the guitarists and soloists. Miss Marie Stachlewitz was the organist.

The newly-weds will reside in this area.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Strauss

Ronald B. Strauss and Vivian J. Knieper solemnized their marriage vows during a Nuptial Mass celebrated by Fr. Harvey on Saturday evening November 15, 1975.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roger B. Strauss of Wyoming, Michigan. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Linus J. Knieper, 366 Edison, Ypsilanti.

Steven Van Zalen of Wyoming, Michigan and Janice Fohey of Saline were the main attendants.

Miss Marie Stachlewitz accompanied Shirley Riggs, soloist. Mr. Lynn Knieper was the lector. Michael and Pat Wideman were the acolytes.

Congratulations, newly-weds.

Vietnamese Resettlement Update

The Committee working on the resettlement of a Vietnamese family in our parish is still in search of suitable housing for this family. Many of the houses we have checked out are not accessible for shopping and transportation in and around the community; others have extremely high rental rates. If anyone knows of any other houses or large apartments for rent, anywhere in the Ypsilanti area, **please** call either Barney Hughes (482-2251) or Fr. Jerry (483-3360) as soon as possible. We want to be able to have this family with us for Christmas; but we can do nothing more until we find suitable housing.

Fr. Jerry

FURNISHINGS NEEDED FOR HOME FOR VIETNAMESE REFUGEE FAMILY

The Committee working on the resettlement of a Vietnamese family in our parish has acquired a 3 bedroom home which we will be renting in the near future. We are now ready to move into the next phase of our resettlement which is furnishing this home. For this we need the help of all of our parishioners.

This house already has drapes and curtains; but we are in need of furniture for the living room, dinette, and 3 bedrooms (beds - single and double, dressers, sheets, blankets, pillows, etc.). In the kitchen there is already a stove and refrigerator, but we need to completely furnish the kitchen with dishes, pots and pans, utensels, etc. Also any other linens that anyone would have would be appreciated, and other odds and ends to fill this house.

If you have any furnishings that you would like to donate, please contact Phyllis Gracie - 761-3199 or Sharon Warner - 761-7417. We will arrange to pick up anything you might have, that you would like to donate to this cause.

Within the next couple of weeks we will also be in search of clothes; but for the time being, we are interested in furnishing the house. Any duplicates that we might acquire will be donated to the St. Vincent de Paul Society for distribution among the poor.

WON'T YOU PLEASE HELP US!

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If you have any furnishings that you would like to donate, please contact Phyllis Grade - 781-2199 or Sharon Varner - 781-7412. We will arrange to pick up anything you might have, that you would like to donate to this cause.

Within the next couple of weeks we will also be in search of clothes, but for the time being, we are interested in furnishing the home. Any duplicates that we might acquire will be donated to the St. Vincent de Paul Society for distribution among the poor.

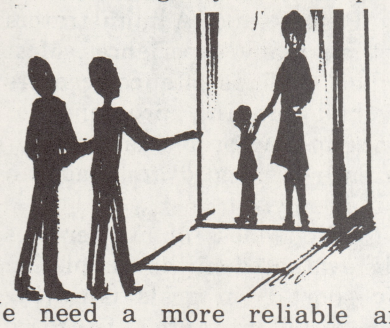
WOULD YOU MIND HELPING US?

St. John's St. Vincent De Paul Society

Our annual Thanksgiving message on St. Vincent de Paul is due with this issue. We like to keep you, our parishioners and mainstay, informed as to the work being done and the activities sponsored. We try to keep material before you all year so that you will have a better understanding of our work in your name. This insert was decided upon as our annual message to you as a means of special communication. Last year we gave you the Major Society Background *so that you would have a better understanding of the manner in which we fit into the international society. We also gave you some information on our parish involvement up to that point. As we have grown in greater understanding of the needs of those who have so little, we have updated our policies to meet these needs. We have also gained new membership on the Executive Committee which give us more help in pursuing new ideas. One Executive member is now in the school of social work and has decided to use St. John's charity works as a basis for class assignments and to gain better knowledge to bring back to the committees for total responsibility. We would like to share his first paper with you because it hits the pertinent ideas which we are striving to foster in this parish and so that you will know that all those who are in attendance in this class are being brought to greater understanding of what this parish is striving to accomplish through one person's response to this class.*

The Community of St. John's Helping The Community Of Ypsilanti

"I am not working at a regular student placement this semester so I have decided to use a request for service from my volunteer job to fulfill this assignment. I am a member on the executive committee of the St. Vincent de Paul Society for St. John's Parish of Ypsilanti. The St. Vincent de Paul Society is a Catholic charitable works organization that furnishes needy individuals and families with food, clothing, housing, and home visits. Our small agency tries to serve everyone that comes for aid either with direct contributions or referrals to agencies that will be able to serve them or a combination of both aid and referral. Like most human service agencies, lack of adequate financial resources is a problem; our agency is no exception.



We need a more reliable and consistent source of income so that more of our time can be devoted to direct service and less for fund raising. The request for service that I would like to discuss (new and consistent forms of income) originated in a meeting of our parish executive Board.

When a small group of individuals makes a board decision they are the only participants present but many others have a stake in their decisions, especially when the decision is to raise more money and the only source of income is through contributions, grants, or activities that need volunteers and community support. The groups and individuals with a stake in our decision were many: 1) the parish council; they had to give their consent to certain activities that were planned and also consent to any direct funding from the parish budget. 2) The parish community has a very important stake because they must make the contributions plus support and work on our planned projects. 3) The entire Ypsilanti community has a stake because the community benefits from our services and community need is the basis for the request of service. 4) Other local social service agencies are also participants because we accept referrals and also refer some clients to other agencies. Without support from all of the participants the agency could not function or be a success.

Each of the participants have resources that are needed. The resources that they possess are not limited to money though financial support is an important resource. The parish council can give us insight into past programs that have succeeded or failed. Council members are elected representatives of the parish so they have influence in convincing the larger parish of our needs. The council also has power over the parish budget so it is of utmost importance that they understand our services and needs.

The parish community is abundant in resources and probably the least tapped for aid. The parishioners have **knowledge** and **skills** and **social power** and **influence** that can do much to increasing the effectiveness of our fund raising. The parishioners are also our largest source of income and contributors to our other services (housing and food substances).

The Ypsilanti Community is practically unused for financial support. With more sophistication our agency will probably be able to use the larger community to a greater extent. This may even include funding from the county community chest. The many other service agencies in the Ypsilanti Community are not able to offer financial support but they are invaluable resource in helping us find other resources. Social service agencies usually have unlimited expertise in referring people. The members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society posses as resources their time for coordinating any money

making projects. They have some knowledge and skill developed through education and past experiences. Like the parish council members, and many other parishioners and community members they have a desire to help serve the community.

In order to fulfill our primary goal of increased aid, certain changes are necessary in our internal organization. It is necessary that we become more organized, more accurate minutes of meetings and increased documentation of organized projects and services must be recorded. As an agency we must become prepared to speak for the agency and produce documentation of services rendered and policies followed. It is not enough that agency personnel are convinced of the need for the agency, and the amount of services rendered, we must convince the groups that have resources that our agency is a viable asset to the community. The combination of more efficient internal organization and increased public relations should increase our credibility and bring about the changes we need.

Most parishioners and parish council members support the work of our St. Vincent de Paul organization so it isn't difficult convincing them of our needs. A few members believe that enough of their money is already going to the poor through taxes and welfare. The argument of welfare abuse and overuse is common and has merit, but our critics, after becoming familiar with our policies understand that our aim is to help individuals that don't qualify for welfare, and emergency aid to people waiting for support.

After meeting with the council it was decided that members of the St. Vincent de Paul society would contact other agencies and churches to see how they financed their charitable works. I made a contract with the other members of the board to contact the other organizations. I plan to visit many of the local parishes and agencies to see how they are funded. The information I obtain from the churches and agencies will be used to inform the council how other parishes help the needy. Hopefully, I will also find sources of income outside of our parish that are willing to help, for example Community Chest. I decided to visit many different churches and agencies because valuable assistance can be given by many Pastors and Administrators from their many experiences. Most churches and assistance centers have had funding problems or continue to have problems and their experience both good and bad can aid our agency.

The effectiveness of my services will be evaluated on the completion of my short term goals (studying alternative agencies funding systems). My primary goal will take one or two years to accomplish so I will find my services valuable and effective if I'm able to discover promising alternatives of funding. These alternatives will help us realize our primary goal in the future but at this point if plans can be made to write grant or aid proposals, and if the council will consider our agency in next year's budget plans our work had been effective.

The most difficult questions for me to answer were the questions on resources and participants. In social service type work from community programming to crisis intervention the participants and resources play a vital role and it seems that no matter how much time is spent trying to understand and become familiar with participants and resources the worker is never able to fully achieve his goal.

My goal for learning this year and also in my field experience is to learn to perform in a more professional manner my work for St. Vincent de Paul and other organizations. This assignment and other experiences in class and with students and fellow workers will help me to fulfill that goal. This assignment has been profitable because I was forced to sit down and think and write out the experience."

FISCAL YEAR 1974-75

Input
$1,566.92 from parish drives and activities
288.40 from last Sunday donations
$1,855.32 Total

Output
$1,638.87

Meetings Held
- Executive Meetings monthly
- Meetings with other churches and agencies in the city.
(Another meeting is being held in January to determine cooperative endeavors.)

Publicity
- **Ypsilanti Catholic** monthly record
- **Ypsi Press** coverage of events
- National Bank Town Crier

Services Used By:
11 agencies
4 parishes
8 parishioners

Total Individuals Helped
179 including making referrals

We urge parishioners to use this time of thanksgiving to count their blessings and to decide how much can be set aside in gratitude for these blessings in order to help those in great need. We will be happy to accept donations/foods on Thanksgiving - Bring to either the evening vigil on Wednesday or the Thursday morning Mass - or the Sunday following if you were not here for Thanksgiving.

* * * * *

St. John's can be proud of its record for aiding the needy. Together let us continue.

Worship Commission Notes

Meeting: The Worship Commission will meet this Monday evening, November 24, at 7:30 in the rectory. We have a great deal of material to cover, so please be prompt. We will be finalizing plans for Advent and Christmas, so it's important that all members of the commission be present.

Worship Commission Christmas Party: The entire Worship Commission will be gathering for a Christmas Party on Friday evening, December 12, in the Church Hall. We will be having a potluck supper followed by a "Good Ole Party." Please mark that date on your calendar now so you will be free to join us. All lectors, commentators, lay distributors, musicians, members of the choir and folk groups, sacristans, liturgy planners, and ushers, will be receiving letters in the mail in the near future with further details.

Attention All Lectors and Commentators: We now have the new copies of **The Word,** which contains the readings for Cycle B of the new liturgical year. It is most important that you turn in your old copy of the Cycle A, reading to Fr. Jerry, at which time you will receive your new book. The copy that you now have runs out this weekend (The Feast of Christ the King) so try to stop by the rectory sometime this week and pick up your new book. Just remember - bring the old book with you to turn in, so that we don't have to purchase another set later on. Thank you for your cooperation.

Fr. Jerry

Reminders ...

...The annual **Bishop's Thanksgiving Clothing Collection** begins this weekend and ends next weekend. All drop-offs should be made at the old school building so that all items are in the designated area for packing. We will appreciate your not leaving items around the entrances to church.

...**Bloodbank** to be held tomorrow, November 24 from 1:30 to 7:00 p.m. at Assembly of God Church on Holmes Road. If you haven't signed a card, please pick one up there and remember to give credit to St. John's.

...**Pancake Breakfast** on the fifth Sunday, November 30th from 8:00 until 1:00 p.m. All the pancakes you can eat for $1.75. Children under 12 eat for $1.00 and for smaller youngsters all we ask is a donation. **Have you been thinking pancakes???**

...The next **Marriage Encounter** will be held at Siena Heights in Adrian the weekend of December 5-7. Call Ann and Walt Stone for reservations at 663-8355.

...**Last call for anniversaries to be celebrated during the Bicentennial Year.** If you are celebrating your 25-40-50-60th in '76 please call Eileen Tardiff at 482-1145 so that we can make advance preparations.

...If you forgot to call the rectory secretary at 483-3360 and offer to help with foods or serving for funeral dinners, we are still willing to have you do so. It is one area that is always in need.

All Alumni Friends of St. Thomas

St. Thomas High School Science Dept. is sponsoring a Dinner and Dancing on Friday, Dec. 5th from 7:00 to 12:00 p.m. at **Barton Hills Country Club.** Tickets are $100 per couple (and your donation is tax deductible). If you have any questions, call Jane Dorr at 971-7523 or Kathy Sherzer at 663-2236.

Service Commission Meeting
Monday - Nov. 24
8:00 p.m. - Rectory
Anyone is invited to attend and give input.

Wedding Banns

III - Brian Dusbiber and Cathy Vanlerberghe

I - Vincent B. Pusinelli and Deborah A. Heath

Financial Barometer November 16, 1975

Sunday Offertory	$2,798.55
Hall Renovation (Including additional Roseann Garber Memorial $75.00)	133.50

Final Notice

Attention: High School Students and Parents

If you are not now attending religious education classes because it is impossible for you to come during released time or after school, please note the following.

Students who would commit themselves to a Tuesday evening class can notify us. **We will act on this for your convenience after you tell us of your desire and willingness to come on Tuesday evenings from 7:00-8:30 P.M.**

Complete and return the following form to the Center.

Name .....

Phone .....

Grade .....

High School .....

The above information indicates that I am asking the parish to open another section for high school religious education which I intend to attend.

Mass Schedule

MONDAY, November 24 - Weekday
7:00 a.m. Deceased of Caroline & August Binder Family, req. by Mrs. Andy Kelly
2:30 p.m. Mary MacDonald, req. by Mr. & Mrs. Carl Miller and Mrs. A. D. Allen (at Parkview Nursing Home)

TUESDAY, November 25 - Weekday
7:00 a.m. George Williams, req. by Herve & Alida Audet
5:15 p.m. Keith Harvey, req. by Marie, Madeline & Ginny

WEDNESDAY, November 26 - Weekday
7:00 a.m. Barney Eldred, req. by Meri Dixon
7:30 p.m. Florence E. Long, req. by her husband and son

THURSDAY, November 27 - Thanksgiving
9:00 a.m. Intention of Roy Connolly, req. by Ruth McCarbery

FRIDAY, November 28 - Weekday
7:00 a.m. Fred & Kim Gillman, req. by Mrs. Marge Walters

SATURDAY, November 29 - Weekday
9:00 a.m. Michael Hresko, req. by Joan & Ralph Evans
5:00 p.m. John J. Sanocki, month anniv., req. by Mr. Stanley Sanocki

SUNDAY, November 30
7:00 a.m. Anna Wrobleski, month anniv., req. by Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Butcko
9:00 a.m. Gretchen Borst, Anniv., req. by Ruby & Bob Belcher
11:00 a.m. Chuck Wilson, req. by Harold & Aileen Wilson
12:30 p.m. Intention of Parishioners

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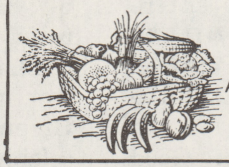

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